



the wyoming game and fish department

March 2016

CODY REGION newsletter

Devil's Canyon sheep transplanted



Wildlife Biologist Leslie Schreiber fits a radio collar on a bighorn sheep captured last month out of the Devil's Canyon bighorn sheep herd.

Last month, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department along with help from multiple partners and area landowners relocated 24 bighorn sheep from the Devil's Canyon herd near Lovell to the Ferris-Seminole herd unit north of Rawlins.

The bighorn sheep were captured using helicopter net-gunning, were transported by truck and trailer and then released in Miner's Canyon on the east end of the Ferris Mountains.

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serving the Bighorn Basin

Of interest

Large carnivore safety workshops offered

It's that time of year again when bears are waking up and people are preparing to enjoy the great outdoors. As spring arrives, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department reminds outdoor enthusiasts to be "*bear aware*" and take the necessary precautions to avoid conflicts with large carnivores.

Two educational workshops will be offered in the Bighorn Basin. At each workshop, Game and Fish large carnivore specialists Luke Ellsbury and Dusty Lasseter will present information about bear, mountain lion and wolf ecology, population status, management and more importantly, what people should do in an encounter situation. In addition, there will be discussion on preemptive measures to be taken by the public in order to reduce the likelihood of conflicts with carnivores. Seminars are free and open to people of all ages and skill levels.

Join us for a workshop:

THERMOPOLIS

March 23

Big Horn Federal Bank

5:30-7:30 pm

CODY

March 24

Park County Library

5:30-7:30 pm



Bear Wise Community Coordinator Dusty Lasseter shows a workshop participant how to properly use bear spray. Inert bear spray cans will be available for participants to practice with in the upcoming workshops in Cody and Thermopolis.



Large Carnivore Biologist Luke Ellsbury will discuss mountain lion ecology, management and conflict prevention at upcoming workshops. Ellsbury is shown here with a chemically immobilized lion captured and relocated in 2014.

Of interest

Getting involved in the community

Right: Biological Technician Juliann Terry helps FFA students from Cody High School study for an upcoming competition at the State FFA Convention. The students learned to identify different skins and skulls of wildlife found in Wyoming.



Youth pheasant hunt



Game Wardens Travis Crane and Chris Queen participated in a youth hunting event near Cody in February. Many youth hunters participated in the event and were allowed to improve their shooting skills by shooting trap at the Cody Shooting Complex. Later in the afternoon, youth participated in a pheasant hunt put on by the Northwest Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation, Bighorn Basin Chapter of Pheasants Forever, Monster Lake Ranch, and numerous landowners. The Wyoming Game Warden's Association purchased game bird licenses for those youth hunters that did not currently have one.

Each youth was allowed to hunt with a mentor, behind a trained bird dog, and allowed to harvest two pheasants. This event provided many young hunters their first opportunity to participate in a pheasant hunt.



WE SUPPLY THE
TROPHIES
YOU MAKE THE
MEMORIES

Wyoming's
Super Tag raffle
offers 9 species
and 10 chances
to win.

**WYOMING
SUPER TAG
AND SUPER TAG TRIFECTA**
THE ULTIMATE WESTERN
HUNTING ADVENTURE

Super Tag tickets: \$10
Super Tag Trifecta: \$30

Deadline to apply is July 1, 2016

APPLY ONLINE: WGFD.WYO.GOV/SUPERTAG

Raffle winners must purchase any applicable licenses and/or stamps before hunting.



Above and left: Successful participants in last month's youth pheasant hunt conducted by Northwest Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation, Bighorn Basin Chapter of Pheasants Forever, Monster Lake Ranch, and other partners.

In the water

See Bear River cutthroats at Wigwam Rearing Station

The Wigwam Rearing Station, located four miles east of Ten Sleep, is home to one of four native cutthroat trout species in Wyoming, the Bear River cutthroat. Wigwam houses the brood stock of this species and each spring, manually spawn the fish by collecting eggs from female fish and milt (sperm) from male fish.

Spawning operations will begin Tuesday, March 22 and continue each following Tuesday through May.

Those interested are invited to schedule a tour of spawning operations by contacting Hatchery Superintendent Jeff Stafford at 307-366-2217. (Spawning dates are subject to change on short notice.)



Bear River cutthroat trout



The [Wigwam Rearing Station](#) is open to the public 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. seven days a week. Self-guided tours of the facility are available without an appointment.

Left: Wigwam Rearing Station personnel manually spawning a male and female Bear River cutthroat trout.

In the water

Become a certified AIS inspector

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is offering a one-day training course in Cody April 8 for members of the public to become certified Wyoming Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) inspectors. The trainings will provide the skills necessary to inspect personally-owned watercraft and other watercraft as well.

The training will include information on basic biology, impacts, transport vectors and distribution of AIS. It includes classroom instruction, a question and answer session, and a hands-on watercraft inspection exercise. The training is free and open to anyone interested in preventing the spread of AIS through watercraft inspection.



Wyoming Game and Fish AIS technicians inspect a boat for a potential aquatic invasive species contamination.

Aquatic Invasive Species can be aquatic animals such as zebra and quagga mussels or rusty crayfish, or aquatic vegetation such as hydrilla.

“Aquatic Invasive Species can have far-reaching impacts on Wyoming water resources for agriculture, municipalities, and wildlife. Many of these invasive species permanently change stream and lake ecology, negatively affecting native species and our prized sport fisheries,” said Beth Bear, Game and Fish aquatic invasive species coordinator. “Having members of the public become aware about AIS, practice Drain, Clean, Dry on their boats, and inspect their watercraft when a Game and Fish check station is not available, is critical in the fight to prevent the spread of AIS to Wyoming.”

Become a certified AIS inspector by attending a one-day training course

April 8 in Cody

at Game and Fish regional office (2820 State Hwy 120)

The training in Cody is scheduled April 8 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Cody Region Game and Fish Office (2820 State Hwy 120). Registration deadline is one week prior to the class start date.

To register or for more information, contact Beth Bear at (307) 745-5180 Ext. 256 or beth.bear@wyo.gov. Please provide your name, mailing address, phone number, and email address.